

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1988

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PBOR SO ET OAU

SUBJ: SIAD AND HIM ADDRESS BORDER ISSUE AT OAU SUMMIT OPENING

1. FIRST ISSUE PRESIDENT SIAD ADDRESSED IN HIS OPENING SPEECH AT OAU SUMMIT JUNE 12 WAS TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH ETHIOPIA. RELEVANT PARAGRAPH OF SPEECH, WHICH WENT ON TO CONSIDER MANY OTHER QUESTIONS, QUOTED BELOW FROM OFFICIAL ENGLISH TEXT:

2. "ONE OF THE MOST UNFORTUNATE ASPECTS OF THE COLONIAL PERIOD AS FAR AS SOMALIA IS CONCERNED, HAS BEEN AMONG OTHERS THE TERRITORIAL DISPUTE WITH ETHIOPIA. THIS LONG STANDING PROBLEM BETWEEN

SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA HAS ENGAGED THE ATTENTIONN OF THE OAU ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. IN THE LAST MEETING OF THE AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT IN ADDIS ABABA A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF EIGHT HEADS OF STATE WAS APPOINTED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS ISSUE. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THROUGH MEDIATION AND DIALOGUE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE OAU, AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION WILL BE FOUND FOR THIS DISPUTE THEREBY OPENING UP NEW VISTAS OF COOPERATION IN THE HORN OF AFRICA. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC HAS FULL CONFIDENCE IN THIS COMMITTEE AND HAS GIVEN ITS FULL COOPERATION TO IT."

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3. IN SHORT SPEECH OF REPLY, HIM SPOKE MAINLY ABOUT GENERAL

AFRIPKAN PROBLEMS IN NON-CONTROVERSIAL MANNER, BUT CONCLUDED WITH
A FINAL PARAGRAPH ON SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN DISPUTE AS FOLLOWS:

4. "BEFORE I CONCLUDE MY REMARKS, I WISH TO CONVEY THE FRATERNAL
GREETINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF ETHIOPIA TO THE
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF SOMJIA. I ONLY WISH TO STATE HERE,
HOWEVER, THAT THE ISSUE WE HAVE WITH SOMALIA IS NOT A TERRIT-
ORIAL DISPUTE AS REFERRED TO BY MY COLLEAGUE. THE ISSUE IS ONE
OF BORDER DEMARCATION. MAY I ALSO EXPRESS MY CONFIDENCE THAT IN
A BROTHERLY SPIRIT AND THGSUGH MUTUAL TRUST, RESPECT AND UNDEGGA
STANDING, TOGETHER, THETA IS MUCH WE CAN DO IN PROMOTING THE AREA
OF COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO THE MUTUAL ADVANTAGE
OF OUR RESPECTIVE PEOPLES."

KIRK

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